

THE

# Publishers' Weekly

A JOURNAL

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE

## BOOK AND STATIONERY TRADE.

[With which is incorporated the American Literary Gazette and Publishers' Circular, established 1852.]

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F. LEYPOLDT, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 37 PARK ROW, NEW-YORK.

VOL. VII. No. 20. NEW-YORK, Saturday, May 15, 1875. WHOLE No. 174.

## D. APPLETON & CO.,

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## The Publishers' Weekly.

MAY 15, 1875.

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MESSRS. J. B. LIPPINCOTT & Co. will publish, about May 20th, the revised edition for 1875, of "Morford's Short-Trip Guide to America." This edition is materially enlarged, with much new Centennial and other matter, new routes, corrections, etc., and is yet reduced in price for this season to \$1, in blue and gold, making it one of the cheapest as well as most comprehensive of guide-books.

MR. BURLINGAME's admirable Wagner volume will be published by Henry Holt & Co. about the 22d, in an octavo of three hundred pages, with several views and plans of the great opera-house building for him in Bayreuth. "Art Life and Theories" is the title of the book, which includes a varied and characteristic selection of his minor works, among them the curious autobiography, his essay-letters on the music of the future and the purpose of the opera, his enthusiastic "Pilgrimage to Beethoven," a romantic little musical story, the plot of the Nibelungen, his account of the Bayreuth building, and others. Mr. Burlingame says it is as hard to get Wagner into English as to turn Carlyle into French, but he has succeeded excellently, and his book will be looked for with interest by all musical people.

GEN. SHERMAN's Memoirs, about ready in two handsome octavos, with a large map of his marches, at the Appletons, is certainly one of the books of the day, and is not unlikely to remain enrolled among the great and abiding books.

THE new novels at Harper & Bros. will be two very notable ones—William Black's new

story of "Three Feathers," which is said to be remarkably pleasant, and Miss Thackeray's "Bluebeard Keys, and other Stories," more of those realized fairy tales which her graceful pen makes so charming.

"THE Morals of Abou Ben Adhem," by 'Petroleum V. Nasby,' which Lee & Shepard have just ready," says the Boston *Transcript*, "is a keenly satirical work, fully in keeping with the author's previous droll and racy productions." This house will soon publish "Ocean Born," a new story by Oliver Optic, and "Wolf Run," another new story by Elijah Kellogg.

MR. GILL desires us to state that the "Treasure Trove" series should not be compared with "Little Classics;" it is as characteristic and distinct in itself as that series and the "Bric-à-brac" books. Its selections are limited exclusively to the lighter humorous essays, stories, etc., of English and American writers, and in this respect its plan is entirely novel. "Burlesque" and "Travesty" will be the first volumes to appear, instead of those originally announced. Mr. R. H. Stoddard is announced as the editor. The books ought to take.

PORTER & COATES announce for early publication, "Cookery from Experience," by Mrs. L. T. Paul, of Philadelphia. It contains above one thousand recipes, mostly proved by personal experience, and recommended as practical, reliable, and inexpensive. It includes also suggestions for meals, lists of meats, vegetables, etc., in season, and advice as to the most reliable canned foods. The second edition of Augustus J. C. Hare's "Days near Rome" is just ready.

THE Osgoods will add Browning's latest work, which is pronounced one of his strongest, to their edition of his works; and there are a good many admirers of the "Poet of the Opaque," as Mr. Browne calls him in the current *Galaxy*, to make a good sale for "Aristophanes' Apology." Miss Phelps's "Poetic Studies," which are full of strong yet tender religious feeling, will make a book uniform with that general favorite, Mrs. Whitney's "Pansies," and is nearly ready. Mr. Flagg's pleasant book on "The Birds and Seasons of New-England" comes very timely, and will be beautiful with heliotype illustrations. A new household edition of Tennyson's "Idylls of the King" will group this greatest series of poems that this generation has produced, in their proper order.

E. J. HALE & SON will publish immediately "The Odd Trump," a novel, understood to be by a new Southern writer. It is a lively piece of work, shifting its scenes from England to Baden, and introducing many salient episodes, and it promises to become popular with novel-readers.

MR. E. R. PELTON, publisher of the *Eclectic Magazine*, has taken the store, 25 Bond street, in Messrs. Holt's building, and will keep on hand a full stock of the Messrs. Lippincott's publications, and receive advance orders from the trade.

THE publication of General Sherman's Memoirs is unavoidably postponed until the 22d inst. The orders which have been received exceed the supply, so that a new edition had to be prepared by the Appletons.



## ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BOOKS JUST PUBLISHED.

*The Prices in this List are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise indicated. Imported books are marked with an asterisk: Authors' and Subscription Books, or Books published at net prices, with two asterisks.*

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- \*Cairnes.**—The Character and Logical Method of Political Economy. By J. E. Cairnes, LL.D., Emeritus Prof. of Political Economy in Univ. Coll., London. Second and enl. ed. Large 12°, pp. xvii, 279. \$2.50. *Macmillan.*
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- Miller.**—Metaphysics; or, The Science of Perception. By John Miller, Princeton, N. J. 8°, pp. 402. \$4. Dodd & M.
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TUTTLE & Co., of Rutland, Vt., were burned out last month, but are enterprisingly laying in a new stock of goods with which to continue their business of twenty-five years' standing.

A NOVEL called "One Summer," the work of a young lady hitherto unknown in literature, is to be published by J. R. Osgood & Co.

"ONE hundred years may come and go," says the Boston *Transcript* pleasantly, "ere there is such a demand for another book as there is for Colonel Higginson's 'Young Folks' History of the United States,' just now. The publishers, Lee & Shepard, undoubtedly met a public want in bringing it out."

### A Word to the Faint-Hearted.

THE necessary friction in getting a reform like that of the book trade into working order, and the discouragements that have come of this year's dullness and the delay of the completion of the reform, are likely to cloud the minds of many with doubts whether, "after all, reform is going to be a good thing or not." These doubts are inevitable, and were to be foreseen. In any work of the sort there must be discouragements during the period of transition, that come close home to the reformers themselves, and overshadow, to all but the bravest-hearted and farthest-sighted, both the good and the future triumph of the whole reform.

We trust any of the faint-hearted will simply go over the grounds on which the reform was started, and thus convince themselves that beyond all discouragements it is well worth working for. If they will but ask themselves what the tendency of the trade is without this reform, they will need little further argument. As we have often said, but have to say again and again, the alternatives before the trade are a breaking up of the distributing system, or the triumph of this reform. Get down to "hardpan," and those are the real facts of the case. In view of such an issue as this, the discouragements of the reform sink into insignificance.

The trade ought to come together at Niagara Falls with twice the faith that even the enthusiasm at Put-in Bay called forth. They should look behind the apparent difficulties to the real bearings of the reform. It is a question of life and death to many of the trade, the most vital of issues. Nevertheless, whatever discouragements there are, should be brought fearlessly forward, and looked full in the face. Such remarkable progress toward reform, if not in reform, has been made during the past year, that the trade can well afford to discuss the whole question.

We expect to see at Niagara the most remarkable gathering the book trade has ever known. If any faint-hearted can not cure themselves before that time, all they have to do is to come there.

It should be remembered that the reductions in fare to and from the next convention will depend upon how many express their intention to be in attendance. So send along the names!

THE trade will be interested in the letter from Mr. Randolph, published below. He voices the views of those who have been chiefly iden-

tified with the reform movement, and needs no word from us to call attention to what he has to say.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Messrs. Lippincott & Co. and Reform.

NEW-YORK, May 6, 1875.

*To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly:*

DEAR SIR: I have read with regret the letter of Messrs J. B. Lippincott & Co., addressed to the editor of the WEEKLY, and published in the issue of April 24th. The hope of the friends of reform, that the Messrs. L. & Co. were at last prepared to co-operate in the movement, has been disappointed.

As many members of the trade are anxious to know the present condition of affairs, a statement of the facts in their order is necessary.

At the Put-in Bay Convention, the member of the firm of Messrs. L. & Co. who was present was without authority to act, and consequently the house did not there identify itself with the reform. At the meeting of the Philadelphia trade, in December, the firm, though fully represented, took no active part in the proceedings, and subsequently declined to sign the paper, as signed by the Philadelphia trade, and which was essentially the same as that signed by all the leading houses of New-York and Boston.

Before presenting their report to the Central Association, in February last, the Committee on Signatures addressed a letter to Messrs L. & Co., earnestly soliciting a reconsideration of their action, but without success. After the publication of the report, Messrs. L. & Co., in a letter to the WEEKLY, took open ground against the proposed movement, and argued as to the impossibility of carrying out its provisions.

*Their position, which had up to this time simply delayed, now virtually estopped, the reform at the East.*

On the 23d of March, Messrs. L. & Co. unexpectedly presented their plan of reform, which was more radical than that proposed by the Convention; but which it was not now possible to adopt, in view of the fact that there was no authority to change the rule of the Convention. This led the officers of the Central Association, on the 8th of April, to address a letter to Messrs. L. & Co., congratulating them on the position taken in their March letter, and expressing the hope, inasmuch as the rule of the Convention could not now be changed, that Messrs. L. & Co. would in the mean time co-operate with the trade of the country on the present basis of the reform, and thus secure an immediate and practical result. The reply of Messrs. L. & Co. is so brief that it may be inserted entire:

"PHILADELPHIA, April 18, 1875.

"MESSRS. RANDOLPH, BARNES, ARMSTRONG, ETC., New-York:

"DEAR SIR: We have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your favor of the 8th inst., in which you so cordially approve the plan we recently suggested for the resumption of retail prices.

"Yours truly,

J. B. LIPPINCOTT & Co."

*Thus their new position has been of no practical use, and the reform still waits.*



I may be permitted to add, that Messrs L. & Co., in view of their well-known previous position, could hardly have expected the trade of the country to change at their suggestion its matured judgment, and its expressed will, in order to obtain the co-operation of the house of Lippincott & Co. That which had proved acceptable to all the leading houses of the country, and which had been heartily or cheerfully indorsed by very nearly all the trade, might surely be considered as worthy of confidence and support. The plan submitted, and rejected by them, represented a capital of millions of dollars. It was not the plan of a party or of a clique, but it bore the indorsement of all the oldest, the most sagacious, and the most intelligent, as well as of the youngest and more humble members of the trade in the three great cities. Never in the history of the trade has there been a movement which was indorsed with such unanimity. And yet Messrs. L. & Co. would seem to require that all this should go for nothing, and that all the work of convention, assembly, and committee should be gone over on a changed basis, in order to secure *their* tardy and reluctant co-operation.

Now, in saying this, I do not desire to raise a controversy with my old friends Messrs. L. & Co. I believe in the right of private judgment, and in their *abstract* right to assume any attitude on this question that may seem best to them. As one who has had, and still has, a deep interest in the reform movement, who has come very largely in contact with all branches of the trade, I might except to Messrs. L. & Co.'s suggestions in their letter of April 19th, that some of those who have been actively engaged in it have been governed by unworthy motives, but I will let it pass. It should be stated, moreover, that more time has been spent in conference and correspondence in the effort to induce Messrs. L. & Co. to identify themselves with the reform movement, than was required to secure the co-operation of the entire trade of the cities of New-York, Boston, and Philadelphia. That the effort was in no wise successful is a matter of great regret.

Nevertheless, the reform is not dead; it simply waits. In the mean time, let none of its friends and advocates be discouraged. Those who have it in charge here have labored diligently, and they mean to continue their work. Let it be remembered how *very near* they came to a complete success, and that the responsibility for the present delay and seeming failure is not with them.

A. D. F. R.

### BOOKS RECEIVED.

HOME SKETCHES IN FRANCE, AND OTHER PAPERS, by the late Mrs. Henry M. Field. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.) The brilliant and distinguished woman, the writer of these sketches, has but recently been missed from New-York society, of which she was for many years one of the brightest ornaments. Her death occurred just two months ago, and called forth from the press and from friends some of the most touching tributes to her talents and worth that have ever been penned. These her husband has gathered together, with his wife's sketches of social and literary life in France, already known as contributions to periodical literature, and made into one handsome volume for the

convenience of friends and the gratification of the public generally. The papers which will attract the most attention and be most universally read are those on George Eliot and Mrs. Charles, the author of "The Schönberg-Cotta Family," which are found at the close of the volume. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

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D. LOTHROP & CO. call our attention to the fact that both the Messrs. Scribner and ourselves are in error in speaking of their edition of Tholuck's "Hours of Christian Devotion" as the first issued in this country. The work has been in their catalogue since 1870, when it was published by them.

PORTER & COATES have published "Miscellaneous Poems: Stories for Children, The Warden's Tale, and Three Eras in a Life," by "Moreton," originally issued for private circulation. The *nom de plume* was found to be that of a lady well known in Philadelphia society, Mrs. C. J. Moore, and another edition was called for. The poems are said to be beautiful in sentiment and tasteful in expression.

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"My Dearest Foe" is the clever title Mrs. Alexander has selected for her new novel, which will be the serial in *Temple Bar*, and has been secured by Henry Holt & Co. for the "Leisure Hour Series." "Mr. Smith," one of the latest of these popular volumes, has proved so successful that it is already out of print. A new edition is being hurried through the press.

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MR. DISRAELI was waited upon as Prime Minister, May 10th, by a deputation of authors, including Blanchard Jerrold, Tom Taylor, Charles Reade, Charles Dickens, G. A. Sala, Miss Braddon, Mrs. Wood, and others, to obtain his views as to international copyright

action. Mr. Edw. Jenkins, as spokesman, "pointed to the appropriation and mutilation of the works of British authors by the book publishers of the United States, and asked if some remedy could not be found for the grievances." Mr. Disraeli replied that the subject had already come before the Government on the question whether a revision of the copyright law in regard to dramas was desirable. The Government would give the matter full attention, but a royal commission would be better than a committee of the House of Commons, because it would be more likely to be well acquainted with the subject.

IN our last issue, owing to a typographical error, the price of Rehbach's copying-pencils was given at \$13.50 per gross. We are informed by Mr. Willy Wallach that the price to retailers is \$18, and to jobbers, \$15 per gross. The retail price is \$2.50 per dozen.

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